

What Is The Issue?—An Editorial

Torrance has been selected as the target of the Southland's second mass demonstration—this time at a housing tract here which spokesmen for the United Civil Rights Committee have claimed practices racial discrimination in the sales of new homes.

Nothing apparently, even the offer of the developer to sell his homes to any qualified purchaser regardless of color, can head off the dangerous meeting.

For several weeks, members of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), an affiliate of the UCRC, have staged a protest at the tract offices of the Southwood development in the Walteria Lake area of the city, an aftermath of earlier protests against the builder elsewhere.

Developer Don Wilson has been forced on two

occasions to make citizen's arrests when demonstrators staged a sit-down in his sales office and on other private property.

Without entering the controversy between the developer and CORE or UCRC, it should be pointed out that the people who have been manning the picket lines and staging the sit-ins at the tract are not people protesting that they cannot buy a house in the development.

The demonstrators have been, for the most part, white youths recruited throughout the Los Angeles basin for the demonstrations.

Residents in the area have the right to be concerned and seek protection when the security of their

homes is being endangered by events which could become uncontrollable.

With respect to the controversy which now threatens the peace and perhaps the welfare of a large segment of our city, the charges of racial discrimination are not backed by the facts, leading to the conclusion that the rightful demands of American Negroes for equal treatment, not only in law and civil rights but in social contacts and opportunities, are not involved.

Mr. Wilson states as fact that no Negro has sought to purchase a home in the Torrance tract. As late as last Saturday, he personally offered to sell one or more of the homes to any of those on the scene as protesters.

The only qualification placed on the offer was the

one which applies to every home sold in that or any other development and which will continue to apply: ability to meet the financial requirements.

Mr. Wilson indicated to The HERALD yesterday that his offer was not an idle gesture . . . it is his policy.

One of the nearby residents describing the situation to the City Council Tuesday night said the neighborhood "was sitting on a powder keg . . . and the fuse is short."

His description seems to sum up the situation across the nation.

Unless cooler heads prevail, the chance for the conscience of man to win the struggle will have been lost.

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Torrance Herald

Serving Greater Torrance — Capital City of the Great Southwest

Cigar Smokers
In for a Shock
(See Page 15)

50th Year — No. 51



OFFICE AND PLANT, 1619 GRAMERCY AVE. — TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 1963

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CITY HELP ASKED IN DISPUTE

A Penny
for
your
Thoughts

With Little League coming under attack from various quarters, the Pennies photographer asked several Little League mothers how they felt toward Little League and the critics.

Mrs. Alberta Castleman
22406 LaDeene
Ave.:

"I am all in favor of Little League. I think it is as much for the parents as for the children. In fact, we could use more parents in the older league. The criticism isn't based on fact so far as I can tell."

Mrs. Pat Bland, 5620 Rockview Dr.:

"I don't agree with the critics. Where would the boys be if they were not out on the fields playing ball? Little League is, and should be, a family activity involving boys and their fathers as well as mothers."

Mrs. Enid Irgens, 4621 Reese Rd.:

"We do not have the win or else attitude at our home. My husband is a manager and he feels that it is how the game is played. Our boys feel the games are for them, and they play their best. I haven't seen any of the attitudes we have been criticized for."

Mrs. Frances Demeules, 22739 Anza Ave.:

"My boy is happy when the team wins, and sometimes he doesn't even play. I will agree though that there are too many parents in the games. Some parents do bowl out their boys when they make an error or lose, and I don't

School Board Cuts \$250,000 From Budget

Slashing \$252,000 from the recommended figures, the Board of Education adopted a tentative budget of \$14,536,749 Monday evening. The budget for 1963-64 is up almost \$1 million over the current fiscal year. The tentative budget anticipates a little more than \$14 million in income. The nearly \$500,000 deficit will be financed by surplus funds accumulated during the first year of the 50 cent override tax voted in 1961.

TRUSTEES adopted the budget after nearly four hours of discussion. Cuts in the allocations for administration, maintenance, and plant operations were responsible for the overall decrease.

Attempting to back into the budget, the trustees analyzed percentage figures for four previous years and tried to allocate funds in accordance with those trends. Large cuts in instructional funds would have been required and the board abandoned that approach.

Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, was not pleased with the cuts. As the scalpel came closer, he told the board, "We have not come to this board with an outlandish budget. You have the money, and I think you are wrong in not giving it to the kids."

MEMBERS Albert Charles and Mrs. Kenneth Watts argued that maintenance and operation costs were increasing too fast and moved to cut a total of \$260,000 from the allocations. Dr. Hull, arguing that the instructional program would suffer directly, said services would have to be curtailed.

The motion, cutting \$100,000 from maintenance and \$130,000 from operation allocations, was approved. Several members voted yes with the understanding that Dr. Hull would be able to come back for additional funds if programs were endangered.

The additional cut was achieved when the board denied requests for three new administrative positions.

THE NEW budget is up about 7½ per cent over the current fiscal year. Enrollment is expected to climb about 5 per

cent, and automatic salary increases account for the additional expenditures.

During a discussion of Charles' approach, he and assistant superintendent of business, S. E. Waldrip, engaged in a sharp exchange. Charles argued the trustees should set "reasonable and equitable dollar controls" and leave specific programs to the administrators. Waldrip argued that such an approach was unrealistic and that programs should be established and financed.

Dr. Hull joined the exchange and agreed that Torrance had been able to maintain its low-cost quality instructional program by establishing specific programs and financing them.

THE TENTATIVE budget will be sent to the county superintendent of schools for review, and be resubmitted to the Board of Education about July 15. A publications budget must (Continued on Page 6)



READY FOR FOURTH . . . Ingredients for a successful observance of Independence Day on Thursday, July 4, are shown here as the United Peninsula Republican Clubs prepare for a nonpartisan, patriotic celebration and picnic beginning at 11 a.m. at the Malaga Cove School in Palos Verdes. From left are Namet Kerr, 9; Mrs. John Kerr; Bryan Hardwick, and Arnold White. (Herald Photo)

More Pickets Due at Tract On Saturday

Residents of the picket-plagued Southwood development requested and won promises of assistance from the City Council Tuesday night but were not successful in the plea to have the area closed off to outsiders on weekends.

Spokesmen appearing on behalf of the residents, in a calm and deliberate presentation, outlined the problems which have confronted a area residents in recent weeks because of the picket and sit-in demonstrations staged by adherents of the Congress of Racial Equality.

Don Foyle, speaking for the estimated 200 residents in the audience, said his group wanted "protection for our property and the safety of our people and our children."

HE TOLD councilmen that the residents were going to take all means "formal and legal" to protect their homes and families.

Pictures of recent demonstrations taken by residents were projected on a screen in the jammed chambers by George Marx who asked that the City Council take steps to alleviate the problem.

While television cameraman and news photographers recorded the scene, Marx asked

that permit parking be established in the area and that a 30 minute zone be authorized around the Southwood sales offices near 236th Street and Evelyn Avenue.

HE ASKED for "every available support to break up the groups—not necessarily CORE, but those who gather across the street to taunt and jeer the pickets."

Stop signs at area intersections, requested as a traffic control measure, were approved by councilmen who went through the requests of the residents in an effort to answer their demands.

"It would appear here that the neighborhood is not interested in the controversy but want to protect their homes and families," Mayor Albert Isen said. "They are right in appealing to the City Council, and it is our duty to protect (Continued on Page 6)

Pair Hike 4,000 Miles

By JERRY REYNOLDS
Herald Staff Writer

Two 18-year-old youths have arrived in Torrance after hitchhiking nearly 4,000 miles across the United States. The pair will spend the rest of the summer in Los Angeles area before returning home — to London.

Roger Stephens and Paul Morrison were brought to Torrance from the Grand Canyon by the Arthur "Scotty" Samsons, 22915 Cabrillo Ave. The Samsons were vacationing at the Grand Canyon and were preparing to return home when a brightly painted sign with the words "London, England to Los Angeles" and a British flag caught their attention.

ROGER AND PAUL arrived in New York by plane March 16, for their tour of the United

States. They have airline tickets for the return trip — New York to London, and hope to finance their tour by working.

After working in New York for six weeks, the duo went to Baltimore by bus to visit with friends. There they left their heavy baggage and set out with their sign.

After a short side trip to Williamsburg, Va., and Washington, D. C., the real trip began. Miami Beach was the first destination.

EQUIPPED WITH their sign and a couple of bags, the pair left Baltimore May 24. Traveling by way of Nashville, Birmingham, and Tampa, they circled the Florida peninsula and headed for New Orleans. After a week in New Orleans, they struck out across the Texas plains.

Both youths said their experience in the south was something new to them. They did not see any of the racial demonstrations that have been frequent in the south. Roger said he found southerners: oth "prejudiced and very pleasant."

"Texas should have been more impressive," said Paul of the Lone Star State. A few days in Texas and New Mexico came to an end, and the pair made their way back to the Grand

Canyon. There, the Samsons came into the picture.

MRS. SAMSON is from London, and her husband is a native of Glasgow, Scotland. "I stopped in my tracks when I saw that British flag," said Samson.

Commenting on their travels, Roger and Paul said there don't seem to be much of an urge in the American youth for traveling. "They wait until after college, and then very few really travel," said Roger. The pair found people very kind to them, "once they stopped."

On the differences between England and the United States, the boys said there had always been an illusion that they were really the same country. "When you get here, you realize that the United States is, in fact, a foreign country," explains Paul.

ROGER ALSO added that he hadn't realized that the 50 states were so individual.

Roger's father is a diplomatic correspondent for the London Observer. He is expected to be assigned to the United Nations in September. Roger has a younger sister and two younger brothers at home.

Paul left one brother in (Continued on Page 6)



LONG TRIP . . . Shown discussing the events of a 4,000-mile journey across the United States are Paul Morrison (center) and Roger Stephens (seated). The boys, who come from London, England, were brought to Torrance by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Samson after the sign which Roger displays caught Samson's attention. Mrs. Samson is a native Londoner, while her husband hails from Scotland. Paul and Roger will spend the rest of the summer in the Los Angeles area.

In The Herald Today

AFTER HOURS	20	ANN LANDERS	29
AMUSEMENTS	43	LEGAL NOTICES	47
ARMED FORCES	25	REG MANNING	20
BOOKS	20	COUNT MARCO	18
ROYCE BRIER	20	JOHN MORLEY	20
CHURCH CALENDAR	32	MORNING REPORT	20
CLUSTER LOOK	21	OBITUARIES	7
COMICS	47	O'FLAHERTY	8
CONNOLLY	9	PUBLIC NOTICES	47
JAMES DORRIS	20	QUOTES	20
EDITORIALS	20	SOCIETY	29-32
ENTERTAINMENT	43	SPORTS	45
WILLIAM HOGAN	20	STAR GAZER	20
ART HOPPE	20	TELEVISION	8
KNIGHT	15	WANT ADS	48-55
KNOW YOUR TRAFFIC	10	MARY WISE	34

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